

Message Text

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PASS LABOR FOR HOROWITZ AND ILAB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILO, PLAB

SUBJECT: ILO GOVERNING BODY MEETING, JUNE 23

1. SUMMARY: IN AN UNPRECEDENTED MOVE, THE ILO GOVERNING BODY (GB) ELECTED JOE MORRIS, THE CANADIAN WORKER MEMBER AS CHAIRMAN FOR THE 1977-78 TERM. AGO (ITALY) WILL BE THE GOVERNMENT VICE CHAIRMAN; BERGENSTROM (SWEDEN) WILL CONTINUE AS EMPLOYER VICE-CHAIRMAN. THE GB ALSO DECIDED THE WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE WILL MEET IN THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 31, JUST BEFORE THE NOVEMBER GB SESSION. END SUMMARY.

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS - THE NOMINATION OF MORRIS BY THE WORKER GROUP (AS AN HONOR ON THE EVE OF HIS RETIREMENT) CHALLENGED THE TRADITION THAT THE GB CHAIRMAN BE ELECTED FROM THE GOVERNMENT GROUP; IT ALSO RAISED THE FEAR IN THE GOVERNMENT GROUP THAT THE TRADITIONAL PATTERN OF REGIONAL ROTATION USED IN SELECTING GOVERNMENT MEMBERS FOR THE GB CHAIRMANSHIP COULD BE ALTERED BY WORKER AND EMPLOYER "TURNS" ON A PERIODIC BASIS. BERGENSTROM, IN SECONDING MORRIS'

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CANDIDACY FOR THE EMPLOYERS GROUP SAID IT MEANT THE TIME FOR AN EMPLOYER CHAIRMAN WOULD COME TOO. THE GB AGREED TO A VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL THAT MORRIS' ELECTION WOULD BE CONSIDERED AN EXCEPTION TO THE NORMAL SYSTEM OF REGIONAL ROTATION AMONG GOVERNMENT MEMBERS. COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR THAT (1) WHEN GERGENSTROM RETIRES IN A YEAR OR SO, THE EMPLOYERS INTEND TO NOMINATE HIM AS CHAIRMAN; AND (2) THAT THE NORTH

AMERICAN TERM HAS BEEN POSTPONED FROM THIS YEAR TO 1978-79.

3. WHEN THE NOMINATION OF OFFICERS WAS DISCUSSED IN THE GOVERNMENT GROUP BEFORE THE GB SESSION, DEALWIS (SRI LANKA) POINTED OUT THAT UNLESS THE EMPLOYERS NOMINATED A VICE-CHAIRMAN FROM THE THIRD WORLD, ALL THE GB OFFICERS WOULD COME, AS THEY DO THIS YEAR, FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. DEALWIS SUGGESTED "IN THE CONTEXT OF GROUP AUTONOMY" THAT AGO, ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT GROUP, INFORMALLY ASK THE EMPLOYERS TO NOMINATE AN EMPLOYER VICE-CHAIRMAN FROM A LDC. AGO TACTFULLY DECLINED. COMMENT: DEALWIS WAS REGISTERING A LOW-KEY REMINDER THAT THE THIRD WORLD WANTS MORE REPRESENTATION IN THE ILO.

4. THE WORKERS NOMINATED CYRIL PLANT (U.K.) AS THEIR SPOKESMAN, IN PLACE OF MORRIS.

5. AGENDA ITEMS 10 AND 11 - THE GB NOMINATED THE SAME THREE MAN TEAM TO DECIDE HOW TO HANDLE THE ARTICLE 24 PROCEEDINGS INITIATED BY THE WFTU (AGENDA ITEM 10) AGAINST THE FRG, ITALY, NETHERLANDS AND DENMARK FOR ALLEGED VIOLATION OF CONVENTION 111 (DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT), AND BY THE ICFTU AGAINST CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOR ALLEGED VIOLATION OF THE SAME CONVENTION. THE GOVERNMENT MEMBER WILL BE GRIFFIN (VENEZUELA), THE WORKER, MAIER (AUSTRIA), AND THE EMPLOYER, VITAIC JAKASA (ARGENTINA), WITH POLITES (AUSTRALIA) AS SUBSTITUTE. COMPLAINTS PROCEEDINGS UNDER ARTICLE 24 ARE HEARD IN PRIVATE.
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6. BECAUSE OF GENERAL ELECTIONS, THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN DECLINED TO HOST THE ASIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE SESSION WHICH HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 8 IN LAHORE. THE MEETING WILL BE RESCHEDULED THIS YEAR. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THE REAL REASON WAS REFUSAL BY THE EMPLOYERS TO ATTEND UNTIL THE PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT EXPLAINS THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE EMPLOYER SUBSTITUTE DEPUTY MEMBER, M.T. HUSSAIN.

7. THE GB APPROVED THE REPORT OF THE PROGRAM, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (PFAC) WHICH MET EARLIER IN THE DAY. (SEE FOLLOWING PARA).

8. PROGRAM, FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE OF GB MET FOR 30 MINUTES JUNE 23 TO CONSIDER FINANCING OF FUTURE MEETINGS OF WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE. IT AGREED TO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S PROPOSAL TO USE FUNDS ALREADY SET ASIDE (BUT NOT SPENT BECAUSE WPS MEETINGS POSTPONED) PLUS SAVINGS WHICH COULD BE ACHIEVED WITHIN REGULAR BUDGET. PFAC ALSO DECIDED TO RECOMMEND THAT FIRST WPS SESSION TAKE PLACE IN NOVEMBER BEFORE GB MEETING, WITH OTHER MEETINGS TO BE DECIDED ON BY GB, MUHR (WEST GERMAN WORKER) ASKED ILO OFFICE TO PREPARE DOCUMENT

SUMMARIZING AND ANALYZING STRUCTURE PROPOSALS TO FACILITATE
WORK OF WPS. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SEVERAL SPEAKERS INDICATED THEIR
AWARENESS OF DIFFICULTY WPS WOULD HAVE IN MAKING PROGRESS,
NO ONE SUGGESTED IT START MEETING EARLIER THAN EARLY NOVEMBER.
THIS MAY BE RELATED TO MEMBERS BELIEF THAT UNTIL U.S. WITH-
DRAWAL ISSUE IS DECIDED, WPS MEETINGS UNLIKELY TO BE USEFUL.
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